

PROPERTY LOSS IN THE EARTHQUAKE ZONE IS NEARLY \$1,000,000,000

Of Life Various Estimated from 120,000 to 150,000 Persons.

KING EMMANUEL IS DEVOTING PERSONAL FORTUNE FOR RELIEF QUEEN HELENA INJURED TRYING TO STOP PANIC

Archbishop of Messina Rescued from Ruins of His Palace Today—Marquis Semola Still Alive Imprisoned in the Ruins of His Castle at Reggio—Pope Pius X Contributes \$400,000 to Relief Fund—Requests Archbishop Ireland to Ascertain Fate of Americans in Stricken District—Red Cross Funds Cabled to American Ambassador.

(Special from United Press.)
Messina, Jan. 2.—It became known today that Queen Helena was painfully injured last evening in trying to stop a panic in a house where she and other of the rescue workers were ministering to a number of patients. A slight recurrence of the quake caused a rumbling noise which threw the patients into a fearful panic. They made a rush for the door but found the exit blocked by the Queen who resolutely ordered them back to their beds. In their terror the refugees paid no attention to her at first and several of them trod heavily on her feet. The Queen finally succeeded in quelling their fears after which she fainted from pain. She shortly regained her work of nursing sick and wounded. Three thousand refugees crowded the streets and the towns besides the large number who were transported to the coast. The fighting between the soldiers and looters raged again last night, two soldiers and a number of civilians being killed.

Rome, Jan. 2.—The American Embassy announced this afternoon that with the exception of Consul Arthur J. Cheney and Vice-Consul Joseph H. Pierce, wife and children, it did not believe any Americans were killed in the disaster. The American government has been informed that Stuart K. Lupton, of the American Consulate had been killed but Signor Semola, proprietor of the house in which A. J. Ogston, was killed, said that he was in company with Mr. Lupton several hours after the quake and that he was uninjured. Lupton was a well-known American who had been in Messina for some time. He was a member of the American Red Cross and had been active in the relief work. The casualties at the time of the quake were not known. The American Red Cross has been active in the relief work. The American Red Cross has been active in the relief work.

Naples, Jan. 2.—Minister of Public Works Burdett has sent an appeal for more workmen to be sent to the scene of the earthquake. The demand for men to aid in the work of clearing and cleaning up the ruins has been expressed in scores of official messages from all points in the stricken region that have been pouring in daily. The work is being done in the King. The King announces his intention to remain indefinitely at Messina.

Rome, Jan. 2.—Church authorities at Messina reported to the Pope that their fear of the number of Americans dead in the ruins in that city. The Pope has indicated that he wishes Archbishop Ireland to St. Pauli who is now in Europe to go to the scene and endeavor to ascertain the fate of Americans. The Archbishop will doubtless comply with the request.

The messages received by the Pope concerning the safety of Americans and other foreigners differ materially from the reassuring reports made to the government authorities. The number of foreign victims is likely to be materially increased by the probable loss of a large passenger steamer which was last seen in the Strait of Messina a short time before the initial quake. A trace of the vessel has been found. No report has yet been received from Major Landis, who was sent with two others to the scene by Ambassador Griscom. The delay in news from him, however, is natural owing to the confusion of the telegraph wires which the government is monopolizing. Private messages of only the utmost importance are permitted to be sent out. Messages to the Ministry of Marine say that it is not believed there were Americans in the Trinacria or Bellevue hotels in Messina, both of which were razed by the quake. These hotels accommodated most of the tourists.

Hundreds of the refugees were brought to Rome to-day. Naples, Catania, Palermo and other Sicilian cities have more of the sick and injured than they can accommodate and the rescuers have now turned the tide of unfortunates to this city. Hospitals are being established in both the Quirinal and Vatican gardens. The Pope expressed the wish that a hospital be established in the Vatican as he wants to attend in person upon the sufferers.

The property loss in the quake zone is estimated at approximately one billion dollars. This represents the actual destruction of property. The loss in trade and from the abandonment of countless acres of Italy's richest farming land cannot be estimated.

King Emmanuel has ordered the sale of his Sicilian beads worth millions of dollars and will give the entire fund to the relief of the sufferers. The King has already exhausted his available funds. If necessary he has de-

MRS. ERB DESCRIBES HUSBAND'S DEATH

Had Bitter Quarrel and He Was Shot Accidentally She Declares

Had Tried to Kill Her and Her Sister that Night— Tells in Detail on Witness Stand Events Upon Night of His Death.

(Special from United Press.)
Media, Pa., Jan. 2.—"My husband was killed while trying to kill me and my sister. He attacked me and when I fought him off he again tried to kill me. When my sister came to my assistance he tried to kill her. Then when she wrested the revolver from him he was accidentally shot. If the Captain had not attacked us time and again he would not have been hurt. Even if he had gone to bed after the first attack there would have been no shooting but he returned again and again to fight us. His killing could not have been avoided."

In a voice broken by sobs, but with a defiant attitude which reverted her plainly to all present that she had done something for which she should not be blamed, Mrs. Captain Erb took the stand. Her story was dramatic in the extreme and made a strong impression on the jury.

Mrs. Erb was the first witness of the day. As the stern tones of her attorney sounded out, "Florence Erb takes the stand," the tears were rolling down her cheeks as she stepped forward to take the oath. In a reasonably calm voice she began her story. She heard throughout the court room she told her story. The widow was dressed in deep mourning and long crepe streamers gave mute evidence of her grief and exhaustion. She sat back in her chair, and with half closed eyes she awaited the first question of her attorney.

She gave her name and the answers to the preliminary questions that brought her up to the night of the tragedy in a subdued voice that was at times hardly audible. Then she became more composed and her answers were clear and distinct. She told of her meeting with the captain and of her life with him at "Red Gables," up to the early part of the year when she was compelled to leave the house at times because of the abusive habits of her husband.

"Where was your husband when you returned to the house?" "I could hear him moving about upstairs. He did so very late at night. I thought that it was me and he rushed out of the room at me as I came up the stairs. I turned away but he followed. Then, as he tried to grasp hold of me, he told me that I did not know and then he left the room. I slipped on my clothing and went down stairs. I told the servants that I was going to the village green hotel. He went out for a time, returning later."

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(Continued on Second Page.)

JUDGES OF ELECTION COURT DECIDE THEY HAVE NO JURISDICTION

Cannot Proceed With Investigation of Fox Charges Against Gov.-Elect Lilley.

Judge Robinson Writes Opinion Sustaining Contention of Lilley's Attorneys—Not An Inquisitorial Commission Only—Cannot Deprive Any Man of Right to Trial by Jury of His Peers—Synopsis of Opinion in Which Judges Bennet and Robinson Concur.

(Special from United Press.)
New Haven, Jan. 2.—Judges Bennett and Robinson appointed to hear the George L. Fox charges of violations of the corrupt practices act against Governor-elect George L. Lilley to-day handed down a decision holding that they have no jurisdiction to sit as a tribunal in the election cases.

It throws the Fox charges out of court until the constitutionality of the act under which they were drawn is ascertained.

Judge Robinson made the announcement and filed the opinion which is a lengthy one and reviews all the arguments adopted by the attorneys for both sides. The announcement stated that the demurrer filed by Fox's attorneys had been overruled and that the plea against the jurisdiction of the court made by the Lilley attorneys had been sustained. Attorney H. K. Jessup immediately filed notice of appeal to the Supreme Court. The decision holds that it is unconstitutional to try a person for a crime without a jury and the present law provides for a trial only by judges.

Judge Bennett also filed an opinion in the preliminary questions that brought her up to the night of the tragedy in a subdued voice that was at times hardly audible. Then she became more composed and her answers were clear and distinct. She told of her meeting with the captain and of her life with him at "Red Gables," up to the early part of the year when she was compelled to leave the house at times because of the abusive habits of her husband.

The petition of George L. Fox charges the defendant with illegal practices under the act in question and is brought under the authority contained in Section 13 of the Corrupt Practices Act of 1907. The defendant pleads to this petition that it should be abated and be dismissed because the judges before whom it is brought have no jurisdiction in the premises, and the act, or rather the particular portion of the act, under which this petition is brought, is unconstitutional and void.

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(Continued on Second Page.)

A 23 MILL TAX RATE REQUIRED TO MEET DEMANDS ON TAXPAYERS

This on Basis of Requisitions Lodged by City Boards With City Auditor—Pruning Knife Will Be Freely Used by Apportionment Board—Fifteen New Po- licemen Asked for—Three Thousand Dollars Wante to Pay Building Code Committee for Many Meet- ings Its Members Have Held.

City Auditor Keating, who is busy preparing his report to the board of Apportionment, which meets next Wednesday, is of the opinion that the requisitions of the various departments if granted for their full amount would require at least a 23 mill tax. The auditor recommended that the requisitions of a year ago be reduced a half million dollars in order to establish a 15 mill tax. The auditor's recommendation the tax rate was 15.6 mills.

Only about two-thirds of the annual budget is represented by the estimates of the various boards and committees of the city. The other third is applied for by the auditor and includes such items as the county tax, advertising, printing and stationery, interest and payments on funded debt, military commutation tax, indexing land records.

The auditor will recommend reductions in the amount of the estimates of the city departments until he has the total down to what an equitable tax rate for the city will represent, according to his judgment. The city's fiscal year begins April 1st.

A list containing a number of the requisitions and showing in comparison some of the appropriations made for a few of the departments is as follows: (Continued on Second Page.)

MITCHELL DYING; MYSTERY UNSOLVED

Death of Stabbing Affray Victim Expected at Any Time by Hospital Author- ities.

Christ Schick Says Mitchell Told Him He Was Assaulted by Two Men Whose Names He Would Not Divulge.

Chris Schick who conducts the boarding house at Reilly and Pembroke Sts., where John Mitchell the victim of last Sunday night's stabbing boarded, claims that Mitchell was not assaulted within the house or near it. The information in the hands of the police is to the effect that the stabbing took place "in the boarding house at Reilly and Pembroke streets."

(UNCLASSIFIED.)

TO RENT—Six large rooms, all improvements, rent moderate. 435 Lafayette St. T 2 s p o

TO RENT—5 rooms in new house, 411, 1632 North Ave., opposite Lexington Ave. a p

LOST—A square yellow woolen horse blanket on Trinita avenue near Railroad. Return 1397 State St. Reward. a p

WANTED—Railway Mail Clerks. Commencement salary \$800.00. March examinations. Preparation free. Write immediately. Franklin Institute, Dept. 487, Rochester, N.Y. A 21 p 62

ADVERTISER desires financial partner to market new wonderful invention necessary on every trolley, steam and subway car, improving profits, complete monopoly, \$5,000 required. Address Patented, this office. A 2 b

WE HAVE FOR SALE two small houses, three first class cafes, one furnished room house and two good restaurants, centrally located. If you want to sell your business we will get you a buyer. Bridgeport Business Brokerage Co., Room 32, Lincoln Bldg. a p

FOR SALE—One new two-family ten room house, East Bridgeport. Hot water, bath, gas, furnace, fences, curb, gutter, sidewalk, one block from trolley, ten minutes from school. A rare opportunity to procure a desirable piece of property for \$3,500 on easy terms. The Bridgeport Land & Title Co. A 2 s

FOR SALE—Pianos, Ives & Pond, \$125; Mathushek, \$150; also Chickering Bros., McPhail, R. S. Howard, Milton, and slightly used Steinway Grand Pianos will sell on weekly payments of \$125. 844 Noble avenue. T 28 d o

CASCA LAXATIVE tablets, the thing for constipation and stomach troubles. G 1 o

WANTED—Girl for general housework. Apply 563 Fairfield Ave. T 14 t f o

A. FRANK, Optician and Loan office, has removed to 124 Main St. T 12 f o

TO RENT—Newly furnished lodge hall several evenings. Inquire August Selph, 75 State street, or Matt Wheeler, 158 Main street. T 14 p o

RAILROAD DEFAULTS INTEREST. New York, Jan. 2.—Default was made to-day on the January interest of the Pittsburgh, Wheeling and Lake Erie Coal Company 4 per cent. bonds of 1908. About \$600,000 in bonds are outstanding. The entire capital stock of the company is owned by the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway.

DEBATE THIS EVENING. There will be a meeting of the Fraternal Literary Club this evening in Fraternity hall, 62 Cannon street. After a business session, an open debate will be held on the subject: "Resolved, That the Carnegie profit sharing plan offers a satisfactory solution of the labor problem."

NOTICE. Because many have abused the privilege, no more skating will be allowed at Beardsley Park reservoir and a special policeman will be stationed there to prevent skaters from going on the ice.

BRIDGEPORT HYDRAULIC COMPANY. a

NOTICE. Annual smoker of Bricklayers & Plasterers' Union, No. 2, will be held Monday evening, Jan. 4, Emmet hall, State St. Music and refreshments. All Bricklayers and Plasterers of the city invited. JAMES FITZPATRICK. A 1 b o

WANTED—Immediately, girl for second work. Apply 887 Park Ave. T 31 s

WANTED—Experienced windower and card writer. In replying salary, experience and references. Give address. Holland Dry Waterbury, Conn.

THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL Fairfield avenue, begins its new school year Feb. 1st. The school has experience of this school in men for many different universities that to plan the world's education. The school is a result is insured also by the school instruction given to every student. A 1

NOW IS THE TIME to cover pipes, boilers and furnaces. A cost in coal in one winter evenings until 8 o'clock. Tel. John F. Walsh, 114 Kosuth St. T 5 s 24

WINDOW GLASS—We will sell you any size glass you need, set for you, too, at reasonable prices. Beckhoff & Bennett, 697 East Main St. G 4 t o 24

FOR SALE—High grade upright piano, cheap. Square piano, 50 cts. a week. R. A. Platts, 100 Main St. Ash box or chicken coops. \$44 No. 100. S 24 t 24 o

GAS LAMPS, inverted, complete \$600. Ever Ready, 50c. Portable, complete with tube, \$250. At The Liberty, 102 Broad St. Open evenings. T 30 t f o

WANTED—Women to do light hand sewing in the factory. Those who do not care to operate sewing machine will find this congenial and profitable work. No experience necessary. Apply to The Warner Bros. Co. T 21 d o

WANTED—Sewing machine operators. A correct work. Any women who have run foot power machines can readily learn the work. Many prices have been raised, and all are held at the highest point with plenty of work. Apply to The Warner Bros. Co. T 21 d o

POLO AND HOCKEY SUPPLIES. Prices lowest in the city. Large list to select from at The Liberty, 102 Broad St. Open evenings. T 30 t f o

CARD READER—Advice on all affairs, 25c. Mrs. Levy, 674 Madison Ave., 4th house above North Ave. G 6 t f